

Executive Summary

The Inventory of State Prevention Activities Funded Under the 20 Percent Prevention Set-Aside of the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant – The Inventory – is designed to provide a detailed compilation of State prevention activities funded in whole or in part by the 20 percent set-aside from the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant. This document builds on and supplements information that is submitted by the States to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in the SAPT Block Grant application. It is hoped that this inventory may become part of a “blueprint” used by the States to guide and advise them as they conduct ongoing prevention activities. The Inventory provides detailed information on such topics as:

- The range of targeted subpopulations served by State ATOD agency prevention programs.
- A description of the types of programs funded by the SAPT Block Grant set-aside in each of the six prevention strategies permitted under the Block Grant regulations.
- Channels of funding from the State ATOD agency to substate entities.

This Inventory notes a number of significant features of State systems and gains made in the past few years, including the installation of management information systems (MIS), the hiring of personnel trained in the prevention arena, and the incorporation of programs specifically tailored to the needs of targeted populations. Specific findings include:

- States administratively place their ATOD agencies – which are charged with managing prevention activities – within a broad range of locations, including public health, mental health, social/rehabilitative services, human services, and cabinet-level ATOD departments.
- State agencies often contract with substate entities to provide regionally-based prevention services. These substate entities can consist of geographically-determined district offices, regional community mental health/mental retardation centers, regional State ATOD authorities, public/private planning and action councils, private non-profit organizations, and tribal entities. By working with substate entities, State agencies facilitate the development of prevention programs that are designed to address specific regional concerns and issues.
- Thirty-six percent of States (18/50; the District of Columbia was not included in this calculation) contract exclusively with regional substate entities for the provision of prevention services. Another 32% of States (16/50) contract exclusively with community-based agencies. The remaining 32% (16/50)

enter into contractual relationships with organizations to provide a combination of statewide, regional, and local prevention services.

- Although resources are not always available for publishing annual planning documents, existing prevention plans are made accessible for public review and comment.
- Each State ATOD agency spent an average of over \$200 million of Block Grant funds on prevention in each of Federal Fiscal Years (FFY) 1993-1995.
- Most States chose to supplement the prevention set-aside with State general revenues. (41 out of 51 States did so in FFY 1993, 38 did so in FFY 1994, and 33 did so in FFY 1995.) These supplemental State expenditures totaled \$116 million, \$156 million, and \$133 million in Federal Fiscal Years 1993, 1994, and 1995, respectively.
- State agencies are operating with small staffs. Most States report having only one to three full-time equivalents (FTEs) working on prevention-related activities.
- States report widespread adoption of the six CSAP prevention strategies (i.e., information dissemination, education, alternatives, problem identification and referral, environmental, and community-based processes) and have encouraged programs within their jurisdictions to do the same. Some States chose to report data in the optional “Resource Development” area.
- The underlying goal of State prevention programs targeting youth is to minimize risk factors and to enhance protective factors.
- State agencies are faced with a number of unique challenges regarding data collection and evaluation.

As State ATOD agencies continue to evolve, develop, and implement new and emerging effective prevention approaches, the information contained within this Inventory will change. Additionally, innovations in program monitoring (for example, performance-based contracting) will lead to greater efficiencies in program operations that will impact the types of data and results documented in this Inventory.